

**Spencer Town Council Regular Meeting
July 7, 2014 at 7p.m
Municipal Building
90 N. West Street
Spencer, IN 47460**

Board Members present: Cynthia Hyde, and Dean Bruce, Jon Stantz arrived later.

Also present: Clerk-Treasurer Cheryl Moke, Attorney Richard Lorenz, Sewer Superintendent John Hodge, Street Superintendent Larry Parrish, Marshal Tony Stevens

MEETING WAS OPENED WITH THE PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JUNE 16, 2014 REGULAR MEETING

Dean Bruce made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. It passed 2-0.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC ISSUES

Chris Conner, with the Owen County Humane Society presented an updated report on the operations and finance of the shelter. He reported that numbers keep increasing on intakes and placements. He also said the fund raiser recently held was successful. He added that he appreciated the Town's support.

Next, Orna Hanson, representing Beth's Hair Station located at 298 S. Main Street requested that a no parking sign and yellow curbing be removed on the side of the building on Wayne Street. Larry Parrish responded that this had been done, so that the private drive next to the business would not be blocked and there would not be an obstruction of view. Larry Parrish suggested that he work with both Beth and the person who lives in the mobile home to see if an agreement could be reached.

Next, the Clerk-Treasurer presented a draw request for application #1 for the Centerstone Rural Health Clinic Project in the amount of \$51,916.32. This included payments to Building Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$42,212.00, Tabor Bruce Architecture & Design in the amount of \$1,704.32, and to SIDC for \$8,000.00

Dean Bruce made a motion to approve the Pay Application 1 as described above in the total amount of \$51,916.32, which will all come from local funds, provided by Centerstone. The motion was approved 2-0.

Next up, Jerry Cross, representing Green Team, Boston Scientific, reported that their mission is to look for better ways that they can become "better green" and help with natural resources at BSC, as well as in the community. As part of this, they would like to work to name Spencer as a Tree City. The town at one time was listed as a "Tree City" but no longer is. The Green Team would like to offer support in order to attain this status again. During the discussion, Cynthia Hyde suggested that we could start planning on creating a memorial tree park at one of the hazard mitigation properties.

Mr. Cross said that Boston could offer volunteers, and donate some money to the fund to apply for this status. Currently the council is in compliance with all the criteria, so the next step would be to form a joint committee between the town and the team and move forward from there. Gwen Tucker will set up the initial meeting between the town and the Boston team.

IN THE MATTER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Gwen Tucker presented a proposal to expand tax abatements. The Economic Development committee has come up with some recommendations that target the downtown area. In the past, tax abatements were primarily for industry, but the new proposal will allow smaller businesses to be able to apply and achieve the tax abatement by lowering the points needed to be eligible and the money you have to pay to apply. Richard Lorenz commented that they are looking at putting together some urban revitalization projects. In almost all cases, the devices require not only a county redevelopment commission, but one for the town independently. Mr. Lorenz suggested the board think about 5 to 7 individuals that might be interested in being part of this commission.

Jon Stantz made a motion to adopt the changes to the tax abatement plan as proposed by Owen County Economic Development. Motion was seconded and passed 3-0.

Mike Sudol was present as well, and mentioned that he would be able to continue with his own projects once there is a Town Economic Development Commission.

IN THE MATTER OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Officer Stevens asked if there was a decision as to what would happen with Unit 6 vehicle. The board agreed that they would keep Unit 6, since they had no response from Gosport and use it for

the meters, while transferring the current K-9 unit to the Street Department, and transfer the Durango used by the meters to the K-9 unit as discussed in the last meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Richard Lorenz said that an executive session between the County and the Town will be set for Monday, July 21 at 6p.m in regards to personnel matters.

IN THE MATTER OF THE STREET DEPARTMENT

Larry Parrish reported that the house on the property by the Street Department has been removed. He would like to put down stone if the Town agreed. Jon Stantz told him to check with the Clerk-Treasurer to see if funds were available. Cheryl Moke suggested he get an estimate of the costs, to determine what fund could be used for this.

He also reported he has a list for proposed paving, but has not gotten an estimate yet. He has not determined where the ADA corner project will go next, but will make that decision soon.

Jon Stantz mentioned that Bloomington substation does not have a paver, and if they could provide the asphalt and manpower, would it be possible to let them use the Town's paver for paving Morgan Street. Larry Parrish said he would be willing to discuss it further with them. Jon said he would get back to him.

IN THE MATTER OF THE SEWER DEPARTMENT

Tina Wilcher, 314 E. Franklin Street, requested a sewer adjustment. She had a water line from the washer break, as well as a running toilet, which resulted in an exception to the policy, so she is requesting a hardship adjustment. The line and toilet were both repaired, but it could not be determined exactly what was attributed to the water line. At the end of June, she sold the trailer, and the new owner is gutting it and repairing everything.

Jon Stantz made the motion to allow \$300 adjustment of the sewer bill. The motion was seconded and passed.

John Hodge reported on the maintenance and operation of the sewer plant.

Dean Bruce made a motion to approve an estimate from Crosspoint for the repair to the radiator for the generator in the amount of \$7,438.15, and the service contract from Crosspoint in the amount \$1,580.11 (to be further negotiated by John Hodge because of the two service calls.) Motion was seconded and passed.

Dean Bruce made a motion to approve the estimate from Zylem for the repair of the sludge tank pump in the amount of \$2,391.90. The motion was seconded and passed.

Next the dates for the silent auction to sell the surplus 1998 Chevy pickup truck were determined. The first week the ad will run will begin on July 14 and run thru the 18th . The second week will begin on July 28th and end on August 1st. Bids will be opened at the meeting on Aug 4th.

Dean Bruce made a motion to approve the silent auction for the sale of the surplus 1998 Chevrolet pickup truck, to begin on July 14th and end around noon on August 1st. Bids to be open on August 4th. The motion was seconded and passed.

IN THE MATTER OF PLANNING AND ZONING

Cynthia Hyde appointed Kelly Workman to fill the open position on the Planning Board, and Liz Shields to fill the position on the BZA.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ATTORNEY

Mr. Lorenz reported on a meeting he had with Mr. Treloar. He felt it was not completely satisfactory, but there was some progress made. He also feels that there will be numerous problems, not only with this particular business, but with several others as well once the 46 project is underway and Franklin becomes a one-way street.

IN THE MATTER OF OLD BUSINESS

IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS

Jon Stantz reported that he attended the first meeting with INDOT since we were awarded the Safe Routes to School grant. The total amount of the grant is \$116,000 with a 20% match.

There is a street lighting meeting with INDOT set for August 14th at the Municipal building that Jon Stantz will attend.

There was some discussion regarding golf cart regulation in Town.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS

Claims were presented for approval.

Dean Bruce made a motion to approve the claims as presented. It was seconded and passed 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

Dean Bruce motioned to adjourn at 9:15 p.m.

Cynthia Hyde, President

Jon Stantz, Vice-President

Dean Bruce, Board Member

Attest:_____
Cheryl Moke, Clerk-Treasurer